



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hideo WATANABE, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/667,301

Confirmation No.: To be assigned

Filed: September 25, 2000

For: SOLID MULTI-PIECE GOLF BALL

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JAN 3 0 2002

Group Art Unit: 3711

TECHNOLOGY CENTER RS700

Examiner: Alvin A. Hunter

## RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 26, 2002, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith. Please note that since January 26, 2002, is a Saturday, this Response if timely filed.

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 4-16 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 4-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higuchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,830,085) in view of OFFICIAL NOTICE.

## I. Consideration of IDS References

## A. Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-70412

Applicant requests consideration of the two foreign patent documents listed in the IDS filed on September 25, 2000. The Examiner maintains that the first foreign patent document (Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-70412) was not considered because 1) the application